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vacuum to apply a negative pressure to to a skin surface to be treated, said vacuum causing increased contact between the skin surface and the abrasive surface.

Please add claims 11 -15 as follows:

11. The device of claim 1 further including a collection filter disposed between the treatment tip and the source of vacuum so that all particulate matter entering the at least one opening in the abrasive treatment tip is collected therein.--

12. A method of treating the skin surface of a patient to remove surface cells and reduce undesirable skin blemishes comprising
providing a tubular treatment tool with an abrasive skin contacting surface,
providing a pressure through a lumen within the tubular treatment tool which is less than ambient pressure surrounding the treatment tube, and
bringing the abrasive skin contacting surface into contact with the skin surface to be treated while said lesser pressure is delivered to the skin surface through the lumen and moving the abrasive skin contacting surface across the skin surface.--

13. The method of claim 12 wherein the abrasive skin contacting surface has an abrasive crystalline material adhered thereto.--

14. The method of claim 12 wherein the abrasive skin contacting surface is formed by a machining process.--

15. The method of claim 13 wherein the abrasive crystalline material is selected from the group consisting of crystals of diamond, aluminum oxide, silicon carbide, silicon oxide and metal nitrides.--

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action of August 23, 2000, the shortened period for response there to being November 23, 2000.

The drawings were objected to as not being in compliance with 37 CFR §1.84(p)(5) in that certain reference signs present in the specification were not on the drawings, reference signs were on the drawings which did not appear in the specification and at least one reference sign was used for two different features. Enclosed are drawings marked in red to show proposed changes to correct these errors. The specification has also been amended where necessary to include missing reference numbers. In particular, reference numerals 48, 50, 52 and 54 have been added to Figures 7b, 10 and 11, respectively. In addition, the erroneous use of reference numbers 18 and 19 in Figure 10 was corrected.

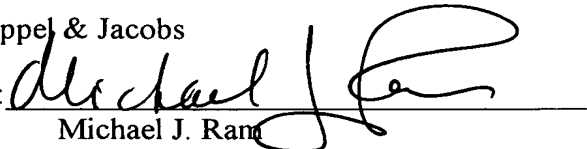
tissue is not collected on the abrasive surface for subsequent removal at an external site, as directed by Cooper. It is picked up by the vacuum and collected at a remote location during use of the claimed device.

Claims 1 -15 are pending in the application. It is respectfully submitted that these claims are patentable, fully supported by the Specification and not shown by the prior art. It is requested that the claims be found to be patentable and a Notice of Allowance be issued.

Respectfully submitted,

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